

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4469

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN, SCUL, JA, US

1. A MATTER REGARDING UN UNIVERSITY HAS COME UP HERE ON WHICH WE NEED SOME INFORMATION AND POSSIBLY SOME HELP.

2. INQUIRY IS BEING MADE OF THE EMBASSY CONCERNING WHAT IS DESCRIBED AS "AN ABRUPT CHANGE" IN THE STATE DEPT. POSITION ON SUPPORT FOR A U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN UNIVERSITY. AS YOU KNOW, SECRETARY KISSINGER, IN HIS BREAKFAST MEETING WITH FONMIN MIYAZAWA, SAID THE UNIVERSITY PROJECT HAD HIS SUPPORT. HE IS ALSO REPORTED HERE TO HAVE WRITTEN WALDHEIM EXPRESSING HOPED-FOR "SUPPORT IN THIS SESSION OF CONGRESS". BOTH AMB YASUKAWA AND DIETMAN KONO'S DEPUTATION BELIEVE THEY WERE TOLD THAT "THE STATE DEPT. IS ON JAPAN'S SIDE" IN THIS MATTER.

3. WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGTON RECENTLY, UN UNIVERSITY RECTOR HESTER SAYS HE WAS ADVISED BY BOB INGERSOLL THAT STATE FAVORED THE HOUSE VERSION WHICH PROVIDED FOR A 20-MILLION-DOLLAR U.S. CONTRIBUTION NEXT YEAR. HESTER, I UNDERSTAND, REPORTED THESE POSITIONS TO GOJ ON HIS RETURN HERE.

4. WE NOW ARE TOLD THAT SOMEONE IN OMB HAS ADVISED A STAFF
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MEMBER OF THE UN UNIVERSITY THAT THE STATE DEPT. HAS CHANGED

ITS POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT AND NOW FAVORS NO CONTRIBUTION THIS YEAR: ACCORDINGLY OMB ADVISES IT HAS STRICKEN THE 20 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRIBUTION FROM ITS PROPOSED BUDGET. OMB SAYS STATE'S NEW POSITION SUPPORTS A 50-MILLION-DOLLAR FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM STARTING ONE YEAR LATER.

5. OUR QUESTIONS ARE: HAS THERE INDEED BEEN A CHANGE IN STATE'S AND/OR THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT? IS THE NATURE OF THE CHANGE DESCRIBED BY OMB ACCURATE? HAS ANYBODY DISCUSSED THE RATIONALE OF THE CHANGE, IF INDEED ONE HAS OCCURRED, WITH THE JAPANESE?

6. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST, BECAUSE WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER ERUPTION ON THIS SUBJECT HERE SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH OCCURRED IN MID-SEPTEMBER IF INDEED THERE IS SUBSTANCE TO THE FORE-GOING.
HODGSON

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